

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MAPUTO 00180 261037Z

21

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 IO-11 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01

/066 W

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R 251100Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4317

INFO USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

C O N F I D E N T I A L MAPUTO 0180

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MZ, CH

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE EXPLANATION FOR DEPARTURE OF PRC AMBASSADOR TO
MMZAMBIQUE

1. GERMAN TEXTILE ENGINEER ON CONTRACT WITH GPRM GAVE EMBOFF
FOLLOWING PLAUSIBLE EXPLANATION FOR THE DEPARTURE AND LONG ABSENCE
OF THE PRC AMBASSADOR, LIN CHUNG, TO MOZAMBIQUE.
HE SAID HE OBTAINED HIS INFORMATION FROM A CHINESE DINNER
GUEST. THE GERMAN ENGINEER EXPLAINED THAT THE CHINESE AMBAS-
SADOR LEFT MOZAMBIQUE IN A HUFF ABOUT THREE MONTHS AGO BECAUSE
HALF OF A SHIPMENT OF FOODSTUFFS GIVEN TO MOZAMBIQUE BY THE PRC
WAS SENT BY PRESIDENT SAMORA MACHEL TO THE MPLA IN ANGOLA.

ALLEGEDLY WHEN THE CHINESE AMBASSADOR CONFRONTED MACHEL
ABOUT THIS, MACHEL STATED THAT AFTER THE SHIPMENT WAS GIVEN
TO MOZAMBIQUE, HE COULD USE IT AS HE PLEASED.

2. COMMENT: THE LONG ABSENCE OF THE PRC AMBASSADOR HAS
BAFFLED THE LOCAL WESTERN DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY, SINCE CHINA
IS KNOWN TO BE ONE OF THE GPRM'S BEST FRIENDS. HOWEVER, OF
ALL PREVIOUS EXPLANATIONS OFFERED, ABOVE STORY IS PLAUSIBLE
SINCE CHINESE AT TIME OF LIN CHUNG'S DEPARTURE HAD RECENTLY
SUPPLIED MOZAMBIQUE WITH FOOD AND WERE STILL SUPPORTING UNITA/
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PAGE 02 MAPUTO 00180 261037Z

FNLA FACTION IN ANGOLA.CARSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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To: STATE
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